In the Specification

Please amend the "Cross-reference to Related Applications" paragraph appearing at page 2, lines 1-9, as follows:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application claims the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) of US U.S. Provisional Application 60/158,654, filed 8 October 1999, titled INTEGRATED SYSTEM FOR CONSTRAINT-BASED PORTFOLIO AND PIPELINE OPTIMAZATION OPTIMIZATION, which is hereby incorporated by reference. It This application also contains material in common with co-pending US utility applications No. _____, attorney Docket No. 0544MH 36339, titled U.S. Application 09/684,076, filed October 8, 2000, titled SYSTEM FOR SCHEDULING PRODUCT PLANNING, and with co-pending U.S. Application 09/688,032, attorney docket No. 0544MH 36338, titled filed October 8, 2000, titled SYSTEM FOR PLANNING A NEW PRODUCT RELEASE, both filed concurrently herewith, and both of which are hereby incorporated by reference.

Please amend the paragraph appearing at page 3, lines 4-8, as follows:

It is difficult for a company to determine whether it is selecting the best mix of new products to be developed. Because of shorter lifetimes, the development process itself must be carefully planned so that new products can be brought out in a timely manner. Bring Bringing out new products too late can have a devastating impact on a company's profit margin.

Please amend the paragraph appearing at page 4, lines 1-5, as follows:

It would be desirable to provide a system and method for planning development of new products that could consider the impact of product development on product profitability. It would be further desirable for such a system to enable planners to <u>determine</u> a cost of product development as well as impact on future profits.

Please amend the paragraph appearing at page 7, lines 10-17, as follows:

Figure 1 illustrates the planning process generally at a high corporate level. The portfolio planner system resides on a server 10 which is accessed directly or indirectly by the various people involved in the planning process. Those people include program managers and resource managers 12 who preferably access the server 10 through one or more web servers 14. ~~program~~ <u>Program</u> managers and resource managers 12 access a login web page 16 that gives them access to the underlying web pages 18 used to manipulate data and generally access an underlying database 20.

Please amend the paragraph appearing at page 9, lines 4-11, as follows:

Referring to Figure 3, each product under consideration for development may be developed by one or more alternate projects. In this example, ~~Project~~ <u>Product</u> A can be developed by a project X 40, which is currently selected as the active project for this ~~project~~ <u>product</u>. Only one development project is planned for any single ~~project~~ <u>product</u> to prevent different development projects for a product from being pursued simultaneously. Portfolio planners can select alternate projects, such as project Y 42 or ~~Project~~ <u>project</u> Z 44, to assess the impact on overall profitability and scheduling of these alternate projects, but only one project at a time is selected.

Please amend the paragraph appearing at page 11, line 21, through page 12 of 12, line 5, as follows:

Figure 6 illustrates a simple example of the time element as it relates to the project projections used in the preferred embodiment. A graph 74 includes three profit curves 76, 78, 80 which are shifted in time to represent different product introduction dates. IN In this example, the peaks of the curves diminish as the product is introduced later. At some point, there may be only minimal profits if the product is introduced too late. The total profits over the lifetime of a product is found by integrating user the separate profit curves.